

From: Paula Harre
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 5:03 PM
To: Briel, Ron
Cc: 'David O'Doherty'
Subject: NDA/NDAA 407 process

Wayne Stuberger, PT (Chair)
Members, 407 Technical Review Committee
c/o Ronald Briel
Program Manager, Credentialing Review Program
Department of Health and Human Services
Licensure Unit, RPQI
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Lincoln, NE 68509-5026
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Dear Dr. Stuberger and Members of the Committee:

I have been a practicing orthodontist in Lincoln for the past 20 years. Prior to that I practiced for nearly 10 years in Broken Bow Nebraska as a general dentist. I am an active member of my dental and orthodontic associations and have served as a member on our legislative committee for a number of years.

I am writing in support of the NDA/NDAA's 407 for the following reasons:

The Board of Dentistry is best able to determine educational standards for dental assistants, just as they are for dentists and dental hygienists.

I do not need the functions of an Expanded Function Dental Assistant in my current orthodontic practice, however, if this type of dental assistant had been available during my years practicing in central Nebraska, I would most certainly have been able to see more patients and provide more dental services to the people of that region. I was the dental provider for most of the mentally disabled patients in Custer County and was very limited in the dental care I could provide to them because of the low reimbursement rates received from Medicaid. Unfortunately, when running a business, there has to be a limit on the number of services that a provider can provide that reimburses for less than the cost of overhead. Having an assistant with the abilities suggested for the Expanded Function Dental Assistants would have allowed me to provide much more ideal care to that underserved population.

I appreciate your time being given to this matter. If you have any questions, you may reach me at 402 489-8841 or 402 450-7982.

Sincerely,

Paula L. Harre, DDS, MS